

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 210297

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, SF, WA

SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA

REFS: (A)LUSAKA 2120; (B)LUSAKA 2122; (C)STATE 51549;
(D)USUN 996

1. DEPARTMENT HAS NOTED WITH DEEP CONCERN STATEMENTS MADE
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IN LUSAKA BY SEAN MACBRIDE, UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA

(REPORTED REFS A AND B AND IN PRESS), ON DECLARATION ISSUED BY WINDHOEK CONFERENCE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE ON AUGUST 18 AND UN PROTECTION FOR FRONT-LINE STATES. WE BELIEVE THAT MACBRIDE HAS AGAIN STEPPED OUTSIDE THE BOUNDS OF HIS AUTHORITY IN ATTEMPTING TO PREJUDGE SECURITY COUNCIL REACTION TO WINDHOEK ANNOUNCEMENT. U.S. CONTINUES TO STRONGLY SUPPORT SC RESOLUTIONS ON NAMIBIA INCLUDING RESOLUTION 385. BUT WE RESENT MACBRIDE'S ATTEMPT TO INTERPRET FOR THE COUNCIL CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NAMIBIA AS IF HE WERE SC SPOKESMAN.

2. MISSION SHOULD AT NEXT OPPORTUNITY AGAIN APPROACH SYG WALDHEIM TO EXPRESS OUR STRONG DISAPPROVAL OF UNAUTHORIZED STATEMENTS OF MACBRIDE. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT WE HAD HOPED THAT MACBRIDE HAD LEARNED HIS LESSON IN MARCH WHEN SEVERAL NATIONS, INCLUDING ZAMBIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, COMPLAINED OF MACBRIDE'S INTEMPERATE STATEMENTS. YOU SHOULD STRESS MOREOVER THAT HIS STATEMENTS IN NO WAY HELP ADVANCE THE SENSITIVE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS NOW UNDERWAY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

3. MISSION SHOULD INFORM DELEGATIONS OF UK, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN AND NETHERLANDS (FOR EC-9) OF OUR PRESENTATION AND SUGGEST THEY CONSIDER PARALLEL ACTION.

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